

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 6, 7, 16 and 17, cancels claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 and leaves claims 8 and 18 unchanged.

Therefore, the present application has pending claims 6-8 and 16-18.

The Abstract was amended so as to correct minor errors grammatical and editorial in nature discovered upon review. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Peeke (U.S. Patent No. 6,809,505) in view of Nguyen (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0018756); claim 11 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Peeke in view of Nguyen and further in view of Dellacona (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0193059); and claim 20 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Peeke in view of Nguyen and further in view of Burton (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0120267). As indicated above, claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 were canceled. Therefore, these rejections are rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 are taught or suggested by any of the references of record. The cancellation of claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants hereby reserve their right to pursue the invention as set forth in claims 1-5, 9-15, 19 and 20 in a continuing application.


Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication in paragraph 53 of the Office Action that claims 6-8 and 16-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amendments were made to claims 6-8 and 16-18 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 6-8 and 16-18 were allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 6-8 and 16-18 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 6-8 and 16-18 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (501.43575X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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